Connection



December 2004



Lou Correa Wins Election To represent 1st District

Lou Correa Assemblyman for the 69th District, was elected to the First District Supervisorial seat in the Nov. 2 election. Correa will represent the cities of Westminster, Garden Grove, Santa Ana and the unincorporated Midway City.

His term of office begins at noon on Jan. 3 and his first Board of Supervisors' meeting will be Jan. 4.

Correa was elected to his first term in the California's State Assembly in 1998 and was reelected in 2000 and 2002. Prior to becoming a member of the Legislature, he was an investment banker, a real estate broker and a business consultant.

Correa lives in Santa Ana with his wife, Dr. Esther Reynoso-Correa, and their four children.

Shelters Need Volunteers

An estimated 70 percent of the more than 20,000 homeless in Orange County are families with children. The little ones, with limited shelter or food, are the most vulnerable to the rains and dipping temperatures that came early this year.

During the winter months, the County of Orange coordinates an emergency shelter program at the Santa Ana and Fullerton National Guard Armories. Both opened at the beginning of this month and will remain open seven

(continued page 2)

Getting to Know You... An Interview with CEO Tom

On Oct. 15 Thomas Mauk walked into the Hall of Administration for his first day at work as County Executive Officer. With more than 30 years' experience in municipal government administration, Mauk has been praised for his knowledge of public policy administration and managerial expertise. He recently sat down with County Connection to talk about hi first month on the job.

Q. Now that you've been on the job for a month, what are your first impressions?

A. The members of the Board has been first class in providing leadership and communicating with me about their views and goals. In ad-



dition to their leadership, I believe they'd agree that the County runs on the quality of its employees. The talent I've seen here is amazing. One of

my goals is to continue to get out the message about the exceptional work being done daily by County employees.

Q. What do you see as some of the short-term goals that we need to attain?

A. Within the parameters of the

Board's goals.

 We need to continue to maintain a balanced budget and to improve our budget status

status despite the State's takealways and our bankruptcy debt obligations.



- We maintain and want to develop good relationships with our labor organizations and be involved with day-today negotiations.
- Attention needs to be given to our capital projects involved with flood control and Harbors, Beaches & Parks and we need focus in program issues such as Code Enforcement and annexations.
- Q. You have a long history of City management. What are the similarities and contrasts between the roles of City Manager and County CEO?
- **A.** There are more similarities between the two structures than there

(Continued on page 2)

COUNTY CONNECTION Page 2

(Continued from page 1) days a week through March 31.

Although the program is operated by a non-profit organization, volunteer opportunities are available for County employees. For more information about volunteering at the homeless shelters, contact Carol McLaughlin of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at 714.288.5600 or the County Homeless Prevention Coordinator, Karen Roper, at 714.567.7418.

Tis the Season...



Let the giving begin. Operation Santa Claus is gearing up for another year of kindness. The toy drive started November 29 and runs

through December 23.

County employees are encouraged to donate items and volunteer to help in the holiday store. Each year employees can give in three different ways including cash donations, providing new, wrapped gifts or filling angel tag opportunities. To donate money, send your check or gift certificates to Operation Santa Claus, P.O. Box 22006, Santa Ana, CA 92702.

During December, gifts can be dropped off at the Operation Santa Claus distribution center, 1505 East Warner Avenue, Santa Ana. In addition, you may also drop off your contribution at most Courts and at various Orange County public libraries.

Organizations and businesses can sponsor an "Angel Tree" by distributing gift tags provided by Operation Santa Claus. These tags have the name (fictitious due to confidentiality laws) and age of a child or adult who needs gifts from "Santa." Gifts being donated are returned to the "Angel Tree" organizer at a specified time and passed along to Operation Santa Claus for distribution to needy children or adults.

For information on how to conduct a gift drive or make a contribution to the program, contact Debbie Curnutt at 714.825.3159. If you need information about working at the Operation Santa Claus holiday store, call Jane Dawson at 714.834.7440.

(Continued from page 1)

are differences. The primary difference is that the size, number and intensity the County's issues are larger. Some of the issues faced by Cities and Counties are the same or overlapping. Stepping from City to County is, more than anything, a change of perspective. We get through these issues on a day-to-day basis. It's my job to give attention to the details and make sure that employees have the tools they need to do their work and that they understand the mission set before us by the Board.

The biggest contrast I've experienced isn't between City and County. It's between the public and private sectors. There's a myth out there that the private sector does a better job than those of us in the public sector. Having worked in both environments, I'd like to be a messenger to debunk that myth. I have seen talented, skilled workers in City and County agencies as well as in private organizations. In addition, there's an extra measure of commitment to the job from public employees because you are using your abilities to provide necessary services to the public.

- Q. From a City Manager's point of view, what do we as County departments need to better communicate to the Cities?
- **A.** We need to continue communicating to the Cities that we're partners with them in ensuring the best services and quality of life for Or-



ange County residents. In doing so, we need to appreciate and capitalize on the commitment of public sector employees. We should con-

tinue taking the message to Cities

that the County brings skilled, committed employees to this partnership. We want to work along side them to achieve the best for Orange county.

- Q. How would you describe your management style? What will we be learning about you in the next few months?
- A. My management style is based on support and a strong team orientation. The first focus is on the leadership of the Board. Then it's our job to implement that vision and get the job done. You'll see that I'm interested in what employees are doing. You'll see me out and about the County work

sites to
meet you
and talk to
you. I care
about your
success and
how our
combined
successes
move the

County toward achieving its goals in a timely basis.

- Q. How can employees—in any job title or classification—make a difference in how the County does business? How can an individual employee help move toward the goalpost?
- A. Each employee's job is important. Employees make a difference by viewing the County's goals through their own job's mission and making sure they're the same. Hard work and attention to detail in County staff are keys to making that individual difference. If each individual has focus on the goal and what we must contribute toward getting there, we'll become an even more successful organization.

COUNTY CONNECTION Page 3

Supervisor Chuck Smith Retires After 20 Years

After 20 years of dedicated public service, Supervisor Charles (Chuck) Smith will retire Jan. 3. He was

elected as the First District Supervisor in November 1996 and was reelected in 2000. Smith has served as a Supervisor for eight years with two, one-year terms as chairman.

"I'll miss the ability to help those who are less fortunate," said Smith.

Smith would like to see the prescription drug program initiated and social programs continued as incoming Supervisor Lou Correa steps in.

He received his bachelor's degree from Ohio State University and completed graduate work at UCLA. Prior to his public service, Smith was a project manager at Rockwell and a combat veteran of the Korean War.

Smith and his wife, Nancy, have been married for more than 40 years and live in Westminster.



During the two terms of Supervisor Chuck Smith, he focused on the issues of children and families in need.

1,000 County Employees Worked The Polls

An estimated 71 percent of registered voters cast ballot in last month's historic election. A total of 7,700 poll workers including 1,000 County employees and 1,400 students took part.



Registrar of Voters (ROV) reported that Election Day was completed without any major problems. Despite long lines at some locations, minor equipment glitches and a shortage of "I voted" stickers, this election will be remembered as an impressive achievement.

"I am thrilled about the success of the election and grateful for the hard work and dedication of countless volunteers including our County family," said Steve Rodermund, Registrar of Voters. "According to voter feedback, independent assessment by the Secretary of State and evaluations by voter advocacy groups, this election

was a triumph for the ROV and all the volunteers who helped us."

Many lessons were learned from challenges faced in March. Based on those experiences, precautions were taken to prevent reoccurrences in this election. The key aspect was the number and quality of poll workers, changing the training to be more consistent for each poll worker, better communication with staff and field workers on Election Day, and a better understanding of the equipment which was first in service in the March election.

The Registrar also commended ROV staff members for their sacrifices leading up to and even beyond the election. They surrendered flex schedules, vacations and all other time off while preparing for the November 2 election. The 1,000 County poll workers, from departments across the County spectrum, put in a long, high-tension day to facilitate the voting process.

COUNTY CONNECTION Page 4



For the Month of November

35 Years
Dwight Tipping
HCA

Robert Wright RDMD

30 Years
Dana Bianco
HCA

Janice Dunford CSS

Monica Gallagher Probation

Regina Garcia Auditor-Controller

Earl Hancock RDMD

Michael Landry RDMD

Walter Levitus
Public Defender

James Lockwood RDMD

Lucy Lozano Assessor

Marlene McVay Probation John Pavlik RDMD

Dianna RarohaProbation

Robert Reister Sheriff-Coroner

Linda Robinson Sheriff-Coroner

Howard SerbinCounty Counsel

George Valenzuela IWMD

25 Years

Rochelle Ambersound SSA

Crispina Beleber Auditor-Controller

Jeanette Brone RDMD

Robert Courtney
Public Defender

Christopher Dunn Sheriff-Coroner

Alberta Fischer Registrar of Voters

Cprpthy Gamino Sheriff-Coroner

John Honsberger RDMD

William Hunt

HCA

Jorge Lopez Assessor

Rosa Manzo Sheriff-Coroner **Darlene Denham Martinez**

SSA

James Morris JWA

Timothy Morris Sheriff-Coroner

Ngan Ha Nguyen SSA

Binh Phung SSA

Tuyet Quach SSA

Randall Ressell Probation

Lorena Rios SSA

Carlos Rosales RDMD

Michael Russell Sheriff-Coroner

Jan Shoda HCA

Benjamin Stripe Sheriff-Coroner

Velma TrevinoCSS

Thang Vinh SSA

Minh Vo HCA

Jerry Voss SSA

Lynn Voung Sheriff-Coroner

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